Governor Carney, Christina School District, Christina Education Association Announce Letter of Intent to Form Wilmington Schools Partnership



State of Delaware, Christina, CEA also announce town hall meetings to gather feedback from families, educators

WILMINGTON, Del. — Governor John Carney, Christina School District Superintendent Richard Gregg, and Christina Education Association President Darren Tyson announced on Thursday that they have signed a joint letter of intent to work together and develop a partnership with the goal of improving educational opportunities in the City of Wilmington.

The partnership will address the long-term success for the 1,640 Christina students in preschool through grade 8 who reside in Wilmington and attend the district's four city elementary schools and one middle school. These schools are Bancroft Elementary School, Elbert-Palmer Elementary School, Pulaski Elementary School, Stubbs Elementary School, and Bayard Middle School.

Christina School District will work with staff from the Governor's office, the Delaware Department of Education's Office of Innovation and Improvement, and the Christina

Education Association to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) this calendar year and submit the MOU for approval by the Christina Board of Education.

The MOU will define the roles and commitments of each party in crafting a system designed to create great public schools for every Christina student in the City of Wilmington. Dr. Susan Bunting, Secretary of the Delaware Department of Education, and Dorrell Green, Director of the Office of Innovation and Improvement, also signed the joint letter of intent.

"It's always been clear to me that as goes the City of Wilmington, so goes our state. And improving our city starts with improving our schools," said **Governor Carney**. "We are committed to working in partnership with the Christina School District, the Christina Board of Education, the Christina Education Association, families, educators, and community members, to improve outcomes for students in Christina's city schools. We have a responsibility to do better by these students, and I look forward to getting to work."

"The Christina School District is committed to exploring every option available to improving achievement for its students," said Richard Gregg, Superintendent of the Christina School District. "We are willing to enter into this partnership to explore the development of an MOU that clearly outlines the commitments that will be made by all involved. The Christina Board has been clear that any agreement that is developed must focus on what is best for our students, and we will work with the Department of Education and the Governor's Office toward this goal in good faith."

"We welcome the Governor's initiative to partner in service to our Wilmington students," said **George Evans, President of the Christina School District Board of Education**. "We need to create and maximize new pathways to excellence and equity within our Wilmington schools." "CEA and its members look forward to entering into this partnership and working together to create an MOU that best serves and supports the Christina students in Wilmington," said Darren Tyson, President of the Christina Education Association.

Read the full letter of intent here.

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Governor Carney will join Superintendent Richard Gregg and CEA President Darren Tyson at two Wilmington town hall meetings to discuss the partnership between the State of Delaware and the Christina School District:

Town Hall Meeting on Wilmington Schools Partnership

This event is **open** to the press.

WHAT: Governor John Carney will join Christina Superintendent Richard Gregg, Office of Innovation and Improvement Director Dorrell Green, the Christina Education Association, members of the Christina School Board, and community organizations to discuss the partnership, and ideas for improving Wilmington schools, with families and educators in Wilmington. Governor Carney, Superintendent Gregg and others will take questions.

WHO: Governor John Carney

Richard Gregg, Superintendent, Christina School District

Members of the Christina School Board of Education

Darren Tyson, President, Christina Education Association

Dr. Susan Bunting, Secretary, Delaware Department of Education

Dorrell Green, Director, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Delaware Department of Education

WHEN: Wednesday, October 18, 2017

6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Bancroft Elementary School

700 N. Lombard Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

Town Hall Meeting on Wilmington Schools Partnership

This event is open to the press.

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WHO: Governor John Carney

Richard Gregg, Superintendent, Christina School District

Members of the Christina School Board of Education

Darren Tyson, President, Christina Education Association

Dr. Susan Bunting, Secretary, Delaware Department of Education

Dorrell Green, Director, Office of Innovation and

Improvement, Delaware Department of Education

WHEN: Wednesday, October 25, 2017

6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Bayard Middle School

200 S. DuPont Street, Wilmington, DE 19805

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